

HOUSE PRINCIPLES

Members are encouraged to evaluate proposed legislation in light of the following guiding principles of the House of Representatives

- Balance the state budget.
- Create a legal and regulatory environment that fosters economic growth and job creation.
- Lower the tax burden on families and businesses.
- Reverse or restrain the growth of government.
- Promote public safety.
- Promote educational accountability, excellence, and choice.
- Foster respect for the family and for innocent human life.
- Protect Florida's natural beauty.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

The Office of Supplier Diversity (office) is established within the Department of Management Services (department) to assist minority business enterprises (MBEs) in becoming suppliers of commodities, services, and construction to state government.¹ One of the duties of the office is to certify MBEs² pursuant to specified statutory criteria,³ and to recertify MBEs at least once every two years. Recertification is accomplished via a process in which a vendor enters information in online forms, prints the forms, has the forms notarized, and returns the forms to the office.

The Uniform Electronic Transaction Act in Ch. 668, F.S., permits governmental agencies to accept electronic signatures,⁴ and defines an "electronic signature" as an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill provides that the affidavit to recertify a minority business enterprise may be administered by electronic signature in lieu of administration by or before any judge, clerk, or deputy clerk of any court of record in the state or any notary public in the state.⁶

According to the Department of Management Services, the option of electronic signature would fully automate the recertification process.⁷

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 amends s. 287.09451, F.S., to authorize that affidavits to recertify minority business enterprises be administered by electronic signature.

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2010.

¹ Section 287.09451(2), F.S.

² Minority business enterprises are defined in s. 288.703, F.S.

³ Sections 287.0943 and 287.09431, F.S., specify the requirements for certification as an MBE.

⁴ Section 668.50(18), F.S.

⁵ Section 668.50(2)(h), F.S.

⁶ Section 92.50, F.S.

⁷ Analysis of HB 1075, Department of Management Services, February 10, 2010, p. 1 (on file with the Governmental Affairs Policy Committee).

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds. This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities. This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities have to raise revenue.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

Not applicable.